

West Fargo Fire Department

2016 Annual Report

Commitment - Community Service - Professionalism - Integrity



"In a spirit of excellence, integrity, and dedication, the West Fargo Fire Department is committed to serving the community, protecting lives and property through the provision of professional fire and emergency services, 24 hours a day"

From the Chief's Office

On behalf of the West Fargo Fire Department and the West Fargo Rural Fire Department, thank you for taking the time to read our 2016 Annual Report. We are committed to a safe, economically secure and healthy community. Both departments operate as independent fire companies through cooperative agreements with the City of West Fargo, City of Relies Acres, City of North River, and the Townships of Reed, Raymond, Barnes, and Mapleton. We are currently rostered for a total strength of 55 including our full time staff consisting of a Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, and two Fire Inspectors.



Our members operate two separate stations and provide fire and emergency services for our district. When you call 911 in West Fargo, you get a half million dollar truck with four firefighters who might be a personal trainer, safety manager, carpenter and an off duty paramedic who are taking time away from work or family to respond to your emergency. This dynamic system is something we are all very proud of.

It sounds repetitive, but this year was the busiest year since the incorporation of the department in 1940 with 406 calls for service.

In 2016, the department participated in a Strategic Planning process that resulted in our first ever long range Strategic Plan; addressing all aspects of the department including apparatus, staffing, training and inspections. I'm proud to report that all 2016 goals were met on time and we are on track to complete all 2017 goals this coming year.

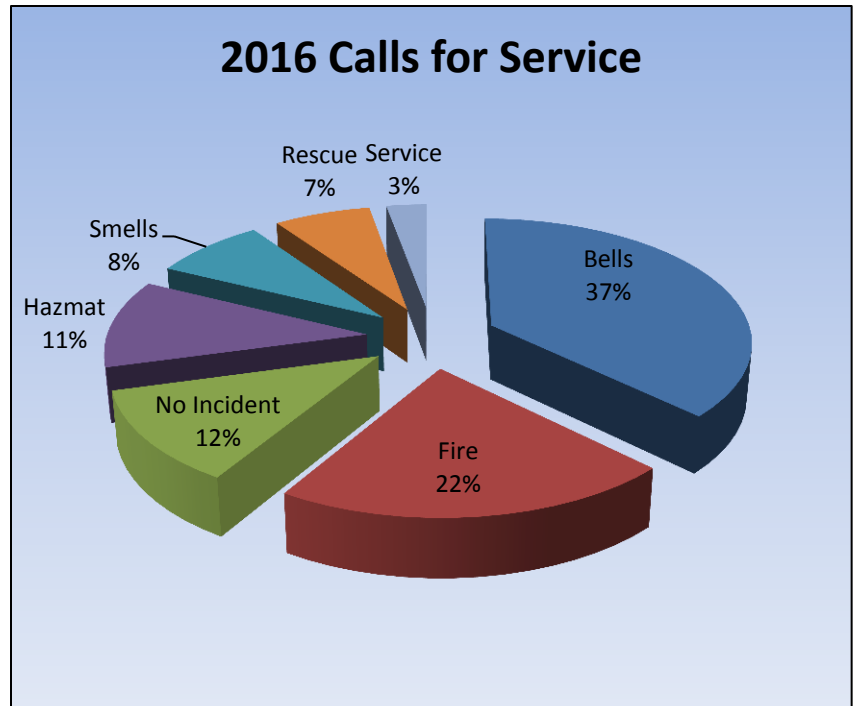
In response to increased responsibilities on the Fire Inspection Division, a fire inspector was promoted to Fire Marshal. This new position allows for the department to be more involved in large scale projects such as the planning of subdivisions throughout the city as well as large scale building projects like the Sheyenne St building. Our training program has undergone a major overhaul this year with the addition of an Engineers Course and Fire Officer course. Additionally, through grants we were fortunate enough to have Texas A&M offer an outreach Hazmat Operations course, resulting in 13 of our firefighters achieving national certifications.

In closing, I invite any resident of the district to contact me with concerns, questions or compliments. Thank you for reading.

Daniel R. Fuller, MPA, NRP
Chief of the Department

Fire Suppression

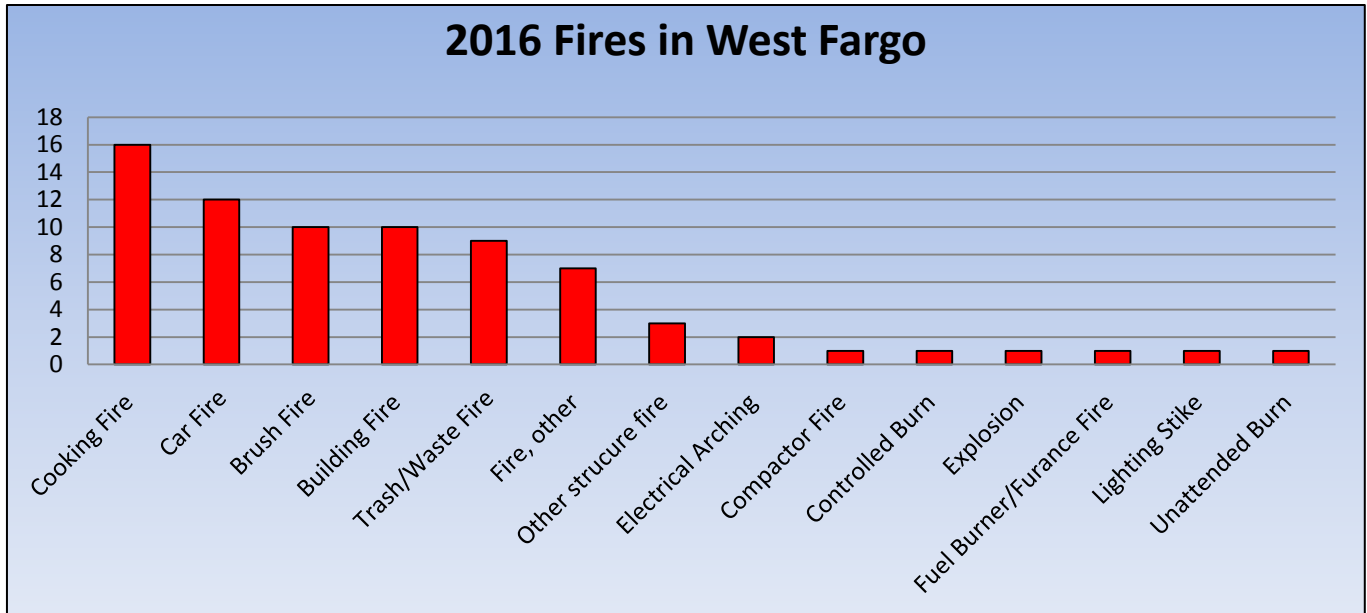
In 2016, the department responded to a diverse compliment of calls for service. Through each of our record **406 calls for service** our firefighters endeavored to provide timely service in the most efficient and safe methods possible. Of the 406 calls for service, 38 occurred in the rural area and 368 occurred in the City of West Fargo. Through a closer dissection of the call type, a picture of fire safety in our community comes into focus.



As was noted in the last annual report that every year since 2010 has been the “busiest” on record. From 2012 – 2016 an increase of 117 calls in five years . Most of the increase is due to fire alarms and sprinkler system activations, while the increase of more serious calls, such as CO incidents, hazmat and fires has been increasing steadily over the same timeframe.

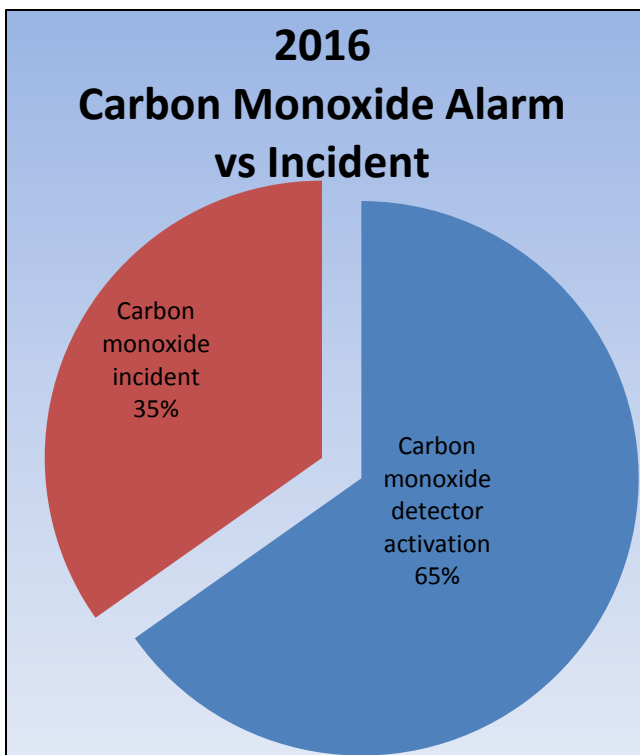


Fire Suppression



We've seen an increase in fires from 2015 (15% -22%) with the biggest percentage increase seen in cooking fires. All cooking fires were contained to the container; if a fire escaped a container it was considered a building fire.

We have also seen an increase in CO alarms that result in a carbon monoxide exposure, with 35% vs 65% of actual incidents versus alarms.



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Fire Death or Injury

	City	Rural
Value	\$15,244,340	\$1,190,450
Loss	\$548,090	\$225,450
Saved	\$14,696,250	\$965,000

Fire Suppression

The breakdown of the day of the week and hour of the week also provide some interesting statistics that the department can use in the future to adjust staffing and on call programs.

For the city, Thursday was the busiest day of the week while Tuesdays were the busiest for rural responses. The most responses for the city were in the 11:00 am timeframe while rural had no busier hour in the data, but rather it was more likely to have a call after lunch but before 10:00 pm.

Day of the Week

	City	Rural	Total
Sunday	44	5	49
Monday	57	10	67
Tuesday	49	7	56
Wednesday	55	0	55
Thursday	59	6	65
Friday	51	5	56
Saturday	54	5	59

85

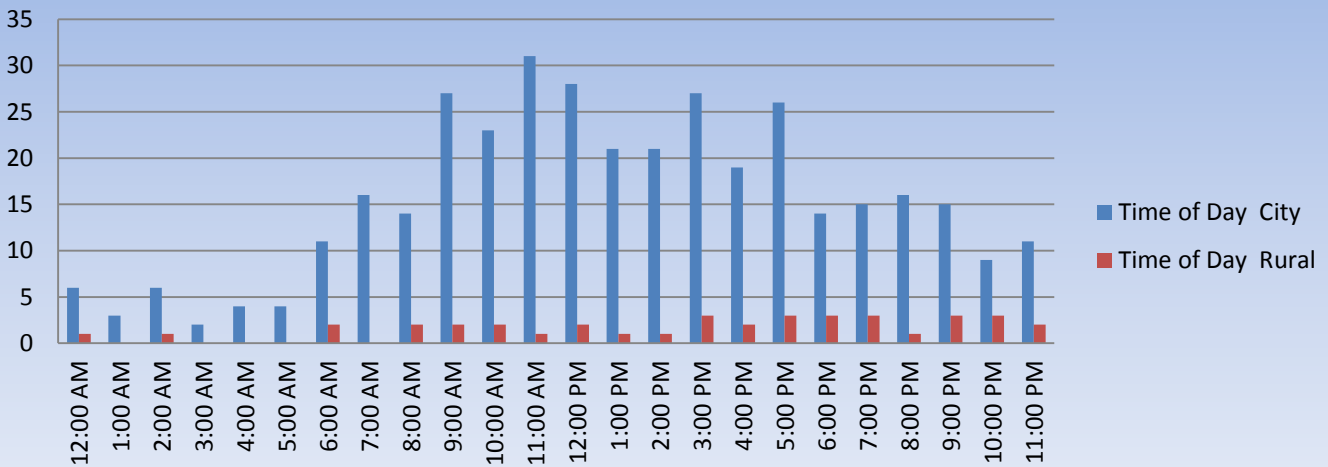
Multiple Call
Days in 2016

July 2016 = **41** Calls

11 Calls – June 19th-25th

August 27th = **10** Calls

Calls by Hour



Personnel

At the West Fargo Fire Department, we recognize that our personnel are our greatest resource. For each member on the roster, we've invested around \$4,250 in personal protective equipment and just under \$780 a year in training costs. In return, our members are mandated to respond to 25% of all calls on a quarterly basis. In 2016, the minimum amount of calls any one of our firefighters responded to was 102 and the department average was 127 over the year.

FULLER DAN	172	Fire Chief		
Southside Station			Central Station	
SPRECHER, DELL	105	Fire Marshal/AC	JORGENSEN, RORY	113 Asst Chief
FROST, KENDEL	115	Captain	CLARK, THOMAS	121 Captain
FREEMAN, JOHN	122	Captain	BARON, STEVE	116 Captain
			PORTER, JOEY	118 Captain
McCLELLAN, PERRY	114	Engineer	DOCKTER, KEVIN	103 Engineer
SCHMID, NATHAN	120	Engineer	TINTES, JOE	109 Engineer
CHRISTENSEN, BRIAN	127	Engineer	MORLAN, JAMIE	129 Engineer
BONNEMA, TIM	131	Engineer	KOMMER, BRAD	133 Engineer
CARLSON, NOLAN	132	Engineer	PAPENFUSS, CHRIS	134 Engineer
BANISTER, ZACHARY	153	Engineer	OTTO SCOTT	142 Engineer
BERGE, SCOTT	155	Engineer	RAGAN BRITTANY	143 Firefighter
JOHNSON, JOSEPH	159	Engineer	SAPP DAVID	144 Engineer
LANZ, BRAD	165	Firefighter	CARRIVEAU, JASON	147 Engineer
NEEB, JOHN	166	Firefighter	HAWLEY, MICHAEL	148 Firefighter
GAUGLER BRANDON	177	Firefighter	SYLSTAD, MIKE	152 Firefighter
NESVOLD LEVI	180	Firefighter	DONLEY, JUSTIN	156 Firefighter
TROY DAVID	183	Firefighter	JOHNSON, SCOTT	160 Engineer
THOMAS KIEFER	185	Firefighter	CARLSON, BJ	163 Firefighter
BRANDON KUMMETH	187	Firefighter	DYKEMA, JACOB	164 Firefighter
BRITTANY HOLT	189	Firefighter	STREGE, DALE	170 Firefighter
			ALLICKSON BRYCE	174 Firefighter
			BUCHOLZ TUCKER	175 Firefighter
			OLSON TRAVIS	181 Firefighter
			KEVIN SWANSON	184 Firefighter
			WILLIAM KRUMWIEDE	186 Firefighter
			IZZY ORTEGA	188 Firefighter
			BILL HALL	190 Firefighter
			DON AHLISCHLAGER	191 Firefighter
			TODD ELLIS	192 Firefighter

374

Collective years of service

Personnel

In 2016, several members made the decision to leave the department. Regardless of the reason, we thank them for the time they spent here, protecting our great community and being part of our team.

Randal Woodley	Assistant Chief	23 years of Service
Chad Noyes	Firefighter	1 Year of Service
Jason Schneider	Firefighter	1 Year of Service
Jordon Gagner	Firefighter	6 months of Service
Ryan Sherbrooke	Firefighter	6 months of Service
Brandon Meske	Firefighter	6 months of Service
Josh Adair	Firefighters	1 month of Service



We also added a class of probationary firefighters to the roster in 2016. These firefighters have been responding to calls, attending training, and will be completing their Firefighter 1 / Pro Board Certification by fall of 2017. We welcome them to the team.

Travis Olson
Bryce Allickson
David Troy

Levi Nesvold
Brandon Gaugler
Tucker Bucholtz

Rolling Stock Report

The department operates four engines, two tankers, a heavy rescue, a ladder, two brush trucks, and four administrative vehicles. Apparatus is rotated on a set schedule, to allow for budgeting of replacements over a more stable time period versus having to budget for a single truck over two years. ***The current fleet of the department is in very good repair and serviceability.*** Funds have been invested in having an outside service company annually inspect our apparatus, including pump testing, changing of primer oil, ladder testing, and regular diesel engine maintenance.



Truck	Year	Type	Miles	Hours
7701	2016	Ford Utility, Chief	10,535	
7752	2015	Chevy 1500 P/U, Inspector	15,301	
7753	2011	Chevy 1500 P/U, Inspector	45,423	
7754	2017	Ford Utility, Fire Marshal	34	
7751	2013	Chevy 2500 Brush	22,665	
7750	2014	Chevy 2500 Brush	39,215	
7720	2015	Spartan/Toyne Pumper	3,723	259
7721	2008	Spartan/Crimson Pumper	13,304	1103
7722	1996	Spartan/General Pumper	13,627	1899
7723	1984	E-One Pumper	14,478	1204
7731	1990	Volvo/White 1,500 Tanker	15,984	373
7732	2006	Volvo/Midwest 3,000 Tanker	2,252	67
7740	2004	Spartan/Marion Rescue	6,616	
7760	2012	Sutphen 95ft Tower Ladder	3,993	341

Training

Firefighters of the West Fargo Fire Department are mandated to attend bi-monthly firefighter training all year long, for a total of 96 hours per member. That totals an aggregate of over 4,300 total firefighter training hours for the entire department. A select number of firefighters are assigned to the Extrication Team, who specializes in vehicle extrication and train another 4 hours a month, representing another 1,200 hours a year.

In late February each year, the North Dakota Firefighters Association (NFDA) hosts a Winter Fire School in Minot. *Ten of our firefighters attended the three day event in 2016;* receiving instruction is specialized rescue techniques such as grain bin rescue and stabilization of tractor trailers, as well as basic through advanced firefighting techniques. In total, each member who attended received eight hours of instruction and hands on training each day.

Event	Location	Member Hours
Monthly Firefighter Training	West Fargo, ND	4,300
Monthly Extrication Training	West Fargo, ND	1,200
Winter Fire School	Minot, ND	360
Fall Fire School	Fargo/West Fargo, ND	360
National Fire Academy	Emmitsburg, MD	320
Firehouse Expo	Nashville, TN	36
Fire Rescue International	San Antonio, TX	36
Fire Dept Instructors Conference (FDIC)	Indianapolis, IN	144
NFPA Conference	Las Vegas, NV	36
Safety Officer NDFA	Fargo, ND	56
MN State Fire Schools	Detroit Lakes, MN	72
TEEX Hazmat Ops	West Fargo, ND	264
Water/Ice Rescue (Mstate Tech)	West Fargo, ND	264
	TOTAL 2016 Training Hours	7,128

Fire Prevention



During the summer and fall of 2016, members attended an *average of six block parties a month*, giving residents and visitors of our city the chance to view our equipment up-close. Fire safety messages were relayed as well, to all age groups.

Annually, the United States Fire Administration sets a Fire Prevention Week. This week is set aside to publicize one of the worst fire disasters in the United States; The Great Chicago Fire which occurred on October 9th, 1871. The Saturday through Sunday period in which the 9th falls into is proclaimed Fire Prevention Week, as it has every year since 1922. This year, your West Fargo Firefighters set out to get the fire prevention message to every home in the city. Most of this delivery occurred through the school system; when a child is educated about fire safety, they bring the message home and remind their parents and neighbors. A over 7,000 West Fargo schoolchildren were reached in 2016. Depending on their age group, they were either visited at school or took a field trip to see the fire station in person.



Major Incidents

24-Jan	Rodeway Inn	Cooking Fire
9-Apr	Rural Harwood	Multiple Brushfires
10-May	311 21st St NW	Building Fire
31-May	3426 6th St W	Deck Fire
3-Jun	430 6th Ave E	Cooking Fire
1-Jul	314 6th Ave E	House Fire
2-Jul	Rural Mapleton	Attic Fire
17-Jul	13th Ave @ 9th St E	Car vs Building
6-Sep	CR 20 Rural Harwood	Fatal Rollover
27-Sep	CR 17	Combine Fire
16-Oct	1900 4th Ave NW	Hazmat regional response
2-Dec	Hazers Auto	Multiple Car Fires
7-Dec	715 13th Ave E	Car vs Building
21-Dec	2115 2nd Ave E	Deck Fire

